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Our hyphenated citizens,  
are they right or wrong?

New York

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*Prof. Boas - - 4-12*

# Our Hyphenated Citizens

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SHOULD THEY BE ALLOWED  
TO STAY, OR SHOULD THEY BE  
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DETENTION CAMPS?

308

Z

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WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR

America, the history of its discovery from ancient to the present times. (2 Vol. Leipzig, 1890-92.)

America, historia de su descubrimiento desde los tiempos primitivos hasta los mas modernos. (3 Vol. Barcelona, 1892.)

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Our Hyphenated Citizens.

BY RUDOLF CRONAU.

The dreadful catastrophe, which has befallen the European nations and plunged them into death, misery and endless difficulties, has brought also many grave calamities for our United States.

Her commerce with numerous European countries, even neutral ones, has been interrupted or destroyed; whole industries are being throttled; and hundreds of thousands of striving and assiduous men are without work and unable to keep want and distress, those unwelcome visitors, from the door.

The gravest of all injuries is, however, that the grim conflict between the European nations has also spread to our shores, and has divided the nation into antagonistic camps, hot against each other and involved in the war itself, in impulse and opinion.

Foreseeing such calamity, President Wilson sent a special message to the people of the United States soon after the outbreak of the war, counseling that **every one should speak and act in the true spirit of neutrality, which is the spirit of impartiality and fairness to all concerned.**

To impress this message as strongly as possible on the whole nation, the President, furthermore, ordered, that the fourth day of October should be spent in prayer and supplication for a speedy end of the bloodshed and woe.

But the result of this recommendation was, as all true Americans must admit, disheartening. The message was nothing but "another scrap of paper," which remained unheeded and was forgotten soon after it had been printed and read.

The first who disregarded it and the grave responsibility they owe to society as well as to the nation, were the editors of many of those papers, that constitute our American press.

Ignoring the fact that the people of the United States are drawn from many nations and that, therefore, impartiality and fairness to all concerned should be strictly observed; ignoring the fact, that Germany, since the establishment of the United States, has, during the most critical times, always acted as her true and unselfish friend, they displayed at once an exceedingly hostile attitude toward everything German.

To observers, having a deeper insight into the state of affairs, this phenomenon was no surprise. Just as the British Cabinet had been for years making careful plans and preparations to isolate and destroy Germany, so it had also taken steps, to secure for England and her prospective allies the sentiment of all other nations, especially America, well knowing that the sympathy of this great and wealthy country would be much more valuable than several army corps. Therefore, whenever leading positions became vacant on the staff of an influential American paper, these places were in some way or other secured for such editorial writers and press-Cossacks, on whose loyalty and obedience the British Government could rely. Long before the first gun was fired in the great European conflict, these skirmishers were at work, concocting all kinds of stories, invented to instil the unthinking masses of the American people with prejudice, distrust and hate toward everything German. Again and again it was asserted that German greed, sneering at the Monroe Doctrine, was about to annex the richest parts of the West Indies, Central and South America; furthermore, that Germany was making ready for sudden invasions of "dear Motherland," England, as well as of the United States, and that her naval officers were inspiring themselves for these adventures with the ominous toast, "To the day!"

This systematic and persistent poisoning of public opinion reached unheard of proportions, when the long expected war broke out. No longer restraining their passions, these British intriguers branded the German nation as well as the German Emperor as the great malefactors, guilty of the appalling conflagration now raging, and upon whom the curse of all humanity should fall! The meanest and most absurd stories of alleged German atrocities, invented by hired fiction writers and hysterical women, were spread broadcast in glaring headlines, in a manner so abusive that, as an American stated, "it would be open to criticism even if America herself were engaged in a war with Germany!"

All these malicious fabrications, a number of which have been exposed in my "**British Black Book**," had a most

deplorable effect on many Americans, especially on those who have never been abroad and whose knowledge of European conditions and affairs is very vague.

Among such persons were thousands of clergymen, professors, teachers, legislators and others, who, believing in the fiendish stories and in the dreadful danger of "German militarism," saw in their disturbed minds the endless hordes of "German Huns" already marching into America and the ghost of "Militarism" hovering over all our hills and valleys.

Stirred by trembling fright and holy wrath, they joined in the anti-German crusade and filled the hearts of their fellow citizens with contempt and hatred for all things German.

To give a very recent example of the base insults heaped upon the German nation, I will reproduce here a few lines, penned by Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews, an American authoress. In her story "The Three Things," published in the "**Ladies' Home Journal**" for November, 1915, she has a young American say: "Neutral! When it means civilization against barbarism! Gentlemen against Huns! Englishmen and Frenchmen whom we know for straight and clean, against the unspeakable German! From the Kaiser down, 70 million of canaille; a nation of vulgarians . . . a beastly swarm of day-laborers, the whole lot, high and low . . . I must go and whack at these canting hounds, who are wiping out little Belgium . . . the Germans are a nation of swine! . . ."

Supposing some degraded person should dare to insult the American nation with such vulgarities, what would Americans do? Most probably they would provide the culprit, man or woman, with a coat of tar and feathers, and certainly they would stop reading a journal, which claims devotion to the interests of the gentler sex, but opens its columns to such language, which is anything but ladylike.



## The Harmless Hyphen, and How It Was Misused.

The vicious insults, heaped upon everything German, produced in the United States just that effect which President Wilson and other intelligent observers had suspected. The nation, the various elements of which had so far worked together in full harmony, respecting each other, was divided in discordant groups.

As could not otherwise be expected, the German-Americans, just as proud of the history, beauty, culture and high position of Germany, as are the Anglo-Americans of their motherland, protested against the calumny of the land of their birth and their fathers; against the slandering of the Emperor, whom they respect as the highest and noblest representative of the German nation; and against the detraction of the brave German army, in whose ranks they know their own fathers, brothers, and friends to be fighting in defense of their families and the destiny of their nation.

To repel these unjustifiable anti-German attacks and to make their misinformed fellow-citizens acquainted with the true conditions of Germany and the true causes of the unholy war, they arranged mass-meetings and established literary defense committees, which distributed such literature, giving the German views of the causes of the war. In doing this the German-Americans performed not only a duty to themselves and to the country of their origin, but, at the same time, a far greater one toward the land of their choice, the United States, which they are trying to save from a serious danger into which it might be thrown by a combination of British Tories, a pro-British press, a wavering Government of pro-British neutrality, misguided ministers and professors, and a duped and incited population.

This propaganda of enlightenment, carried on by the German-Americans with great success, provoked, however, the furious wrath of the British press-gang as well as that of those Americans, who have already been imbued with anti-Teuton feeling to such a degree, that they stubbornly decline to listen to anything which "the other side" might have to say.

Among the principal representatives of the latter class, we find the President Emeritus of Harvard University, Dr. Chas. William Eliot, who in 1913 praised German civilization to

the skies, but now leads in the agitation to poison the American mind against Germany and the Germans.

Into the same class with Eliot belongs — I am sorry to say — Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt. Having posed in former years as an ardent friend and admirer of Germany and the Emperor, he now, for political reasons and for the sake of his own prospects, found it expedient to join the chorus of those who express their anti-German feelings in red-hot speeches and black printers' ink. If I am not mistaken it was Mr. Roosevelt who coined the phrase "hyphenated Americanism," the suggestive term, that has lately so alarmed and menaced our population.

The hyphen! — For centuries it had led a harmless existence. It was used to connect two words, which combined, give something of the significance of each. So for instance in the words Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-American, German-American, Irish-American, Afro-American, combinations, which indicate the origin of various elements of our population.

Now Mr. Roosevelt, or whoever is responsible for the phrase "hyphenated Americanism," made the astonishing discovery, that the hyphen, if bridging the words Anglo-Saxon or Anglo-American, is all right, but in the term German-American all wrong.

The German hyphen is denounced like a poisonous germ, producing in those unfortunate beings, who by accident of birth are inoculated by it, a dreadful malady, manifesting itself by the duplicity and faithlessness of the stricken ones toward the United States. As this "Hyphenitis" might be contagious, it would be for the best of the country, to bundle all "Hyphenates" out of the country or herd them in detention camps.

Such suggestions have been made by several pro-British papers, as the "New York Herald" and the "New York Times," which constantly seek to impress their readers, that all naturalized citizens of German birth or parentage, who sympathize with the Kaiser, are traitors to the United States and have no right to claim America as their country.

As many quack-doctors fall victims to germs by careless handling, so the discoverers of the German hyphen, by its excessive manipulating, became infested with the "hyphenitis," which affected their memory and blurred their judgment. All, what in former times they had spoken and written in praise of their "dear German brethren and fellow-citizens," when they needed their votes; everything they had proclaimed

in flattering toasts about the glory of the German Empire and its Emperor, the "Prince of Peace"; all they had said about the magnitude of the German culture, was forgotten. All recollections of happy days and the generous hospitality they had enjoyed in German homes and palaces, vanished. And instead of those refined Germans whom for their cheerfulness and harmless pleasures they had joined in merry songs, their disturbed brains saw only hideous visions of such detestable Huns, as Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews conjured for the fair readers of the "Ladies' Home Journal."

## The Record of the German-Americans

"Dear is my Country; dearer still is Liberty; dearest of all is Truth!"

This was the inspiring motto of Franz Lieber, one of the greatest of Americans, a German hyphenated by accident of birth. And another great German-American, Carl Schurz, bequeathed us a toast, which deserves its immortal place beside it: "Our Country! When right, keep it right; when wrong, set it right!"

To set right the false impressions about the German element in the United States and to counteract the evil doings of those selfish agitators and demagogues who are responsible for the destruction of harmony in our nation, is the purpose of this pamphlet.

It aspires to bring about a better comprehension of the position of the Germans in America, a weighty task, inasmuch as the majority of Americans know little more about their German fellow-citizens than that they brought the lagerbeer, sauerkraut, frankfurters and delicatessen stores into this country with them. Ignorant of the fact, that the Germans were among the first immigrants in America and that they have taken an active part in our public and political life, great masses of Americans—especially those, who consider themselves as citizens of the "original stock" and the only true inheritors of the land and its principles,—are inclined to treat them as citizens of a second class, as newcomers, with doubtful or no rights at all on American soil.

### Ahead of the Pilgrims.

It will be a surprise for such readers to learn, that long before the Pilgrim Fathers thought of emigrating to America, Germans had already landed in several parts of the New World. At the same time when the British "Heroes of the Sea," "the Hawkins, Drake, Cavendish, Morgan and others, were engaged in abominable slave trade and in plundering the Spanish Colonies, numerous German mechanics, artisans, traders and miners busied themselves with all kinds of useful work.

As early as 1538, **Johann Cromberger**, a German printer, established a printing office in the City of Mexico, and we know from the colonial history of Venezuela, that the German explorers, who came to that country in 1528 to 1546, brought fifty miners and a printing press with them.

Soon after Henry Hudson had discovered the noble river which now bears his name, a German, **Hendrick Christiansen** of Kleve, became the true explorer of that stream. Attracted by its beauty and grandeur, he undertook eleven expeditions to its shores. He also built the first houses on Manhattan Island in 1613 and laid the foundations of the trading stations New Amsterdam and Fort Nassau. In what light Christiansen was regarded by his contemporaries, may be learned from a passage in the "Historisch Verhael" of the Dutch chronicler Nicolas Jean de Wassenauer, who wrote: "New Netherland was first explored by the honorable Hendrick Christiansen of Kleve. . . . Hudson, the famous navigator, was also there."

A few years after Christiansen had been killed by an Indian, another German, **Peter Minnewit** or **Minuit**, a native of Wesel, became Director-General of New Netherlands. It was he who closed that memorable bargain with the Manhattan Indians, in 1626, by which, in exchange for some trinkets amounting to 60 guilders or \$24, Manhattan Island became the property of the Dutch. Minnewit also erected a fortification upon the southernmost point of the island, and developed the colony successfully. Later this energetic man became the first director of New Sweden, a Swedish colony at the mouth of the Delaware. When he perished in a West Indian hurricane, a German nobleman, **Johann Printz von Buchau**, became his successor, and made during his regime, which lasted from 1643 to 1654, the colony a great success.

### Germans the First Promoters of American Liberty.

After New Sweden and New Netherland had been captured by the English, **Jacob Leisler**, a native of Frankfurt-on-the-

Main, became the most renowned person in the colonies during that stormy period, in which the crown of England passed from the Catholic King James II. to the Protestant William III. In the turmoil, caused in the colonies by this change, Leisler, one of the most popular citizens, was elected as a temporary governor by the people of New York, to hold the colony for the new king. In this capacity, he called together the first Congress of the American colonies to resist the French, who had made three assaults upon the British colonies and burned Schenectady. The Congress met on May 1, 1690, and decided to gather an army of 850 men and 1600 Mohawk Indians to attack Canada, while, at the same time, a fleet of 35 vessels should enter the St. Lawrence River to bombard Quebec.

With these acts, Leisler awoke that sense of common interest among the colonists, which increased in time, and finally culminated in the Continental Congress of 1776. A fearless defender of the people's rights against the impudence of the aristocrats and the oppressions of the Government, he was brought to trial as a demagogue and hanged by his enemies in 1691, the first martyr in the long struggle of the American people for liberty.

Nine years after Leisler's death, a young German Palatine, **Peter Zenger**, arrived in New York. After serving as an apprentice and assistant to William Bradford, the famous printer, Zenger established a printing office of his own and published the "New York Weekly Journal," which very soon made itself offensive to the Authorities, as all questionable acts of the Government were severely criticized. As a warning, several issues of the "Journal" were confiscated and publicly burned by the hangman; Zenger, however, fearlessly continued his criticisms. Later, when thrown into prison, he became the hero of a trial, by which one of the highest privileges of our nation—the freedom of the press—was established in America.

That the Germans were opposed to oppression in any form, they again proved in 1688, when the founders of Germantown, Pa., Mennonites from the lower Rhine, delivered the first written protest against slavery. The language of this document, with which these sectarians set an everlasting monument to themselves, was most convincing and in such strong terms, that the Quakers of Pennsylvania, to whom it was addressed, did not dare to take any action on this question.

The Germans were also among the first to protest against

the selfish acts of the British Government toward the colonies, and when the War for Independence broke forth, they accomplished many acts of highest patriotism and bravery. In front of the City Hall in Philadelphia, as well as in the Hall of Fame of the Capitol in Washington, are statues of **Peter Muehlenberg**, a Lutheran minister, who, when the war clouds began to gather, preached to his community on the duties of a good citizen toward his country. Explaining that there is a time for praying and preaching as well as for fighting, he raised his voice and exclaimed: "The time for fighting has come!" And therewith he threw off his priestly garment and stood in the pulpit in the uniform of an American army officer. Inspired by his example, 300 men of his community registered as soldiers. For his gallant service Muehlenberg became one of the most noted generals and the confidential friend of Washington.

In the Mohawk Valley two imposing obelisks mark the graves of **Nicholas Herchheimer** (Herkimer) and his brave Palatines, who fought the battle of Oriskany in 1777, the most murderous skirmish of the whole War for Independence. Of the 700 Palatines more than 200 were killed, and all others wounded. But this battle shattered the campaign plans of the British completely, and in time brought about Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga. Washington himself stated, that Oriskany was the first glimpse of daylight in the time of darkness.

#### A German the Founder of the American Army.

When the distress of the Americans seemed deepest, when Washington, with only a few thousand starving and ill-equipped men, had taken refuge in the dreadful winter quarters at Valley Forge, a man appeared, who proved to be the most valuable help, which the colonies received in their struggle for freedom. This man was **Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben**, a distinguished Prussian officer, and the former personal aide of Frederick the great.

The letter, in which he offered his services to Congress, is one of the noblest documents of those times. It reads as follows: "Honorable Gentlemen! The honor of serving a nation, engaged in defending its rights and liberties, was the only motive that brought me to this continent. I ask neither riches nor titles. I am come here from the remotest end of Germany, at my own expense, and have given up honorable and lucrative rank. I have made no condition with your deputies in France, nor shall I make any with you. My own ambition is to serve you as a volunteer, to deserve the con-



fidence of your general in chief, and to follow him in all his operations, as I have done during the seven campaigns with the King of Prussia. Two and twenty years spent in such a school seem to give me a right of thinking myself among the number of experienced officers, and if I am possessed of the acquirements in the art of war, they will be more prized by me, if I can employ them in the service of a republic such as I hope to see America soon. I should willingly purchase at the expense of my blood the honor of having my name enrolled among those of the defenders of your liberty. Your gracious acceptance will be sufficient for me, and I ask no other favor than to be received among your officers. . . ."

Appointed as the inspector-general of the army, Steuben transformed, under unheard-of difficulties, the undisciplined American soldiers into an efficient fighting machine. In fact, he became the true originator of the army, and if history honors Washington as the leading spirit of the war for independence, then Steuben was the strong arm, that enabled him to strike, and to lead his troops to victory.

How much Washington himself appreciated Steuben, appears from a letter, the very last document of Washington before resigning his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the American Army. It reads as follows:

Annapolis, Decr. 23d. 1783.

"My dear Baron!

Although I have taken frequent opportunities both in public and private, of acknowledging your zeal, attention and abilities in performing the duties of your office, yet I wish to make use of this last moment of my public life to signify in the strongest terms my entire approbation of your conduct, and to express my sense of the obligations the public is under to you for your faithful and meritorious service.

I beg you will be convinced, my dear Sir, that I should rejoice if it could ever be in my power to serve you more essentially than by expressions of regard and affection. But in the meantime I am persuaded you will not be displeased with this farewell token of my sincere friendship and esteem for you.

This is the last letter I shall ever write while I continue in the service of my country. The hour of my resignation is fixed at twelve this day, after which I shall become a private citizen on the banks of the Potomac, where I shall be glad to embrace you, and testify the great esteem and

consideration, with which I am, my dear Baron, your most obedient and affectionate servant

GEORGE WASHINGTON."\*)

Having given due credit to the noble services of Baron von Steuben, it is not more than just, to also remember the gallant Major-General **Johann von Kalb**, a native of Bavaria. As the inscription on his monument in front of the military academy in Annapolis states, he gave, after having served most honorably for three years in the American Army, a last noble demonstration of his devotion for the sake of liberty and the cause of America, in the battle of Camden, where he, leading his soldiers, inspired them by his example to deeds of highest bravery. Seriously wounded several times, he died on August the 19th, 1780.

If we study closely the part which the German-Americans played in the War for Independence and in all its details, it seems doubtful whether this war would have been such a wonderful success without the patriotic support of the German element.

#### The German-Americans During the Wars of the 19th Century.

If our "real" Americans, blessed with the Anglo-Saxon or the Anglo-American hyphen, would study American history more closely, they would also find, that their fellow-citizens with German hyphens never failed to demonstrate their loyalty toward the land of their choice in all the wars America fought in the 19th century. In 1812, after the British had captured

\*) It fell to the lot of Poultney Bigelow, an American Tory, to besmirch the memory of Steuben and Washington in the following lines, which under the heading "Baron Steuben" appeared in the "New York Sun" of May 2, 1915.

"The famous Steuben obtained his rank in the American Army by a pious Prussian fraud. He was only a major out of a job in the land of Frederick the Great, and that thrifty monarch took particular pleasure in reducing his salary account and at the same time driving his supernumerary and least important officers to other armies, where they might acquire experience likely to serve him at a later day.

If my esteemed friend Dr. Hall will do as I did, when permitted by the German Emperor to peruse the hundreds of manuscript reports of Prussian officers who left Prussia after the Seven Years' War and sought fame and food in other armies, he will then realize the agony of our great Washington, who spent much of his valuable time in settling the petty disputes of alleged patriots who came to him with bogus titles to rank, and sought for the triumph of American liberty only in so far as a salary followed in its wake. Steuben was a good drill sergeant and did good service as such. Had he been more than that Frederick the Great would have kept him at home."

the City of Washington and burned the White House, the Capitol and other public buildings, they prepared also for an attack on Baltimore. It was then, that in the defense of this city, two Americans of German origin took the most prominent part. The commander of the militia was General **Johann Stricker**, born in Frederik, Maryland, in 1759. And the commander of Fort McHenry was Major **George Armstadt**, born in New Market, in 1780, whose parents were Hessians. If Armstadt had not held Fort McHenry during the terrific bombardment by the British, our national hymn, "The Star Spangled Banner," most probably would never have been written.

There is also good reason for doubting, that without the help of the 216,000 Germans, born abroad, and the many hundred thousands of Americans of German origin, who fought under the colors of the North, from 1861 to 1865, the preservation of the Union would have been possible. The value of the contingent of the Germans, born abroad, was increased by the fact, that large numbers of them, especially the officers, of whom there were more than 5,000, had received practical training in the war academies and in the armies of their fatherland. The participation of so many efficient officers and soldiers was of greatest importance to the North, for at the outbreak of the war the Confederates had far the greater number of officers who had received their training at West Point.

Many of the officers of German birth or origin attained the highest military honors. There were more than 80 generals and 9 major-generals, among the latter **Peter Osterhaus**, **Franz Sigel**, **August Willich**, **von Steinwehr** and **Carl Schurz**. Five generals, several hundred officers and many thousand German soldiers gave up their lives on American battle fields.

Among the heroes of our Indian wars, of our wars with Mexico and Spain were also many of German stock, as for instance the Generals **Johann Anton Quitmann**, **George A. Custer**, **Alexander von Schrader**, **Theodore Schwan** and **Johann Walter Klaus** or **Clous**, and last but not least — **Admiral W. S. Schley**, the ancestor of whom was a German schoolmaster, who immigrated to this country in 1735.

#### The Germans in American Politics.

Many Germans distinguished themselves also in politics. **Friedrich August Muehlenberg**, a son of the above-mentioned minister, was, in 1798, Speaker of the House of Rep-

resentatives through the first session of Congress. He held this office until 1791, and again from 1793 to 1795. There were also many able senators, representatives, governors and cabinet officers of German birth, among them **Carl Schurz**, who served as Secretary of the Interior under Hayes. It was he who was one of the strongest advocates for the abolition of slavery, for the institution of civil service, of sound finance and the preservation of our forests and other natural resources.

In several presidential elections the German-Americans were the deciding factor. In 1860 they stood almost as a man for Lincoln as the opponent of slavery. In 1892 they supported Cleveland, as they believed with him that a prohibitive high tariff would not be to the interests of the people. And in 1896 they declared for a gold standard and honorable finance.

#### Leaders in Agriculture, Industry and Commerce.

But the great services the German-Americans have rendered this country in war and in politics appear as very little in comparison with the enormous good they have accomplished in the development of American culture. Shoulder to shoulder with their Anglo-American fellow-citizens, they marched in hundreds of thousands into the virgin wildernesses of the New World, everywhere transforming the former abodes of beasts and Indians into fruitful lands and pleasant homesteads. Numerous States, especially Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, New Jersey, the Virginias, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, California, Oregon, and Washington owe their prosperity substantially to the Germans. As agriculturists they won the admiration of all their neighbors. The comparative meagreness of the soil of their fatherland taught them to take care of their farms in a wise and economical way. They never fell into the habit of abusing the soil, which, as is seen in the New England States and in other parts of the country, results, in time, in soil-exhaustion and the abandonment of farms. Whoever visits the beautiful counties of Pennsylvania, settled by the so-called Pennsylvania Dutch, must agree never to have seen farms in better condition than those which exist there. And these farms are still inhabited by the descendants of the early German settlers, who became prosperous through their diligence and rational management.

German skill, genius and enterprise made themselves apparent also in the many handicrafts, in commerce and industry. Germans established the first type-foundries, glass and iron works, powder mills, gun factories, leather and

chemical industries. **Andreas** and **Anton Kломann** are the true originators of the Carnegie works and the present United States Steel Corporation, with which **Henry C. Frick** and **Charles Schwab** also became connected. The name of **F. Augustus Heinze** is inseparably connected with the history of the American copper industry. **Heinrich Wehrum** created the great Lackawanna Iron and Steel Works at Buffalo and Seneca, New York. **Johann August Roebling** was the father of the cable wire spinneries at Trenton, New Jersey. **Martin Brill** in Philadelphia and **J. H. Kobusch** in St. Louis established the two largest car-factories in America. The five brothers **Studebaker** are the founders of the Studebaker Corporation whose extensive and enormous automobile and car factories are in South Bend, Ind., and in Detroit. The Aultman, Miller & Co., in Canton, Ohio, leading in the manufacturing of agricultural machines, was organized also by a German-American. **Peter Pauly** organized the Pauly Jail Building Company in St. Louis; **F. Niedringhaus** the National Enameling and Stamping Company at the same place. **Johann Jacob Astor** organized the famous American Fur Company. The **Havemeyers** and **Spreckels** made themselves the chief factors in the American sugar industry. **Friedrich Weyerhaeuser** was universally known as the "lumber king of the United States." **John Wanamaker**, the inventor of the department store, and **John D. Rockefeller**, the master of the Standard Oil Company, also claim derivation from German ancestors.

Of German origin are also the **American Tobacco Company**, the **American Felt Company**, the **Globe & Wernicke Company**, many of our foremost silk factories, worsted mills and chemical works.

In the production of beverages the German-Americans take the lead,—especially in the brewing industry, which grew to astonishing proportions through their energy. Beer had been brewed in America by the Dutch and English during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In 1810 the whole output amounted to 182,000 barrels. This quantity increased to 740,000 barrels in 1850. Up to that time the brewers, exclusively Anglo-Americans, produced a heavy very intoxicating beer similar to the English ale. Instead of this the Germans introduced the lagerbeer, which contains much less alcohol and for this reason is more suited to the American climate. In time it displaced the ale almost entirely. Besides this, it helped greatly to lessen the consumption of whiskey and other liquors, in which America indulged very

heavily in former times. And so the claim of our German-American brewers, that the introduction of the lagerbeer had a benevolent temperate effect upon the population of America, is, to some extent, justified.

To what enormous proportions the brewing industry has been developed by the Germans is seen from the fact that at present the output of beer amounts to more than 66 million barrels per year. This industry employs hundreds of thousands of men, provides very large revenues to the Government, and yields millions in annual incomes to the farmers for their malt, hops and barley. Many of the large breweries, as, for instance, the **Anheuser-Busch** in St. Louis, the **Pabst** and **Schlitz** breweries in Milwaukee, rank among the industrial wonders of America.

In the production of other food-stuffs the German-Americans are in the field also. The **H. J. Heinz** Company in Pittsburgh, is known throughout America for preserved fruits and vegetables. We find others in the meat-packing business and in the production of oatmeal and other cereals.

The names of some of our large piano-manufactories show how the Germans predominate in this industry. There are the **Steinway's**, the **Knabe's**, **Weber**, **Lindeman**, **Kranich & Bach**, **Steck & Co.**, **Wissner**, **Sohmer** and many others.

In engineering **Johann August Roebling** made himself famous by his daring suspension bridges across the Niagara, the Ohio, and the East River between New York and Brooklyn. One of the most successful engineers of the present times is **Gustav Lindenthal**, who constructed among other great works the new railway-bridge across the Hellgate between New York and Long Island. **Gindele** constructed the enormous tunnel that provides Chicago with fresh water from Lake Michigan. He also made the canal which connects the lake with the Mississippi. **Sutro** planned the famous tunnels in the Comstock mines of Nevada; **Carl Conrad Schneider** the cantilever bridges across the Niagara, and the Fraser River in British Columbia; **Hermann Schuessler** the great water-works of San Francisco.

Among our electricians the Silesian **Carl Steinmetz**, consulting electrician of the General Electric Works in Schenectady, New York, holds the first place. When the president of Harvard University conferred the degree of master of arts upon Steinmetz some years ago, he did it with the words: "I confer this degree upon you as the foremost electrical engineer of the United States, and, therefore, of the world."

### The German-American in Science and Arts.

To give an idea of the great influence the Germans exerted upon the scientific and ethical life of America is almost impossible. Scarcely a university exists that does not reflect German ideas in its methods and institutions. At many of these seats of learning German scholars of the highest standard have been teaching. Many of these, as, for instance, Franz Lieber, Eduard von Holst, Rudolf Agassiz, Albert Gatschet, Franz Boas, Kuno Francke, Hugo Muensterberg, and many others, have won international fame by their excellent works.

To write a history of American art would be impossible without giving credit to the painters Emanuel Leutze, Albert Bierstadt, Carl Wimar, Toby Rosenthal, Henry Twachtman, Henry Mosler, F. Dielman, Robert Blum, Gari Melchers, Karl Marr and Charles Schreyvogel, and to the sculptors Charles Niehaus, Karl Bitter, Joseph Sibel, Albert Weinmann, Otto Schweizer, Albert Jaegers and F. W. Ruckstuhl. Among the distinguished architects of America Johannes Smithmeyer of Vienna and Paul J. Pelz of Silesia are famous as the designers of the Congressional Library, the most beautiful building in America. Hornbostel, Alfred Clas, H. C. Koch, Ernst Helffenstein, G. L. Heins, Carl Link, Otto Eidlitz rank also among the best architects America has produced.

A wonderful influence was exerted by the Germans through their song and music. When the pious German sectarians immigrated into the colonies they brought with them the hymns of the Reformation, and the great symphonies of Haydn, Haendel, Bach and Mozart. When these works were first heard in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and in New England, they made a deep impression upon the Americans. Musical societies, of which the Philharmonic Society of New York and the Boston Symphonic Orchestra became the most famous, sprang into existence everywhere. Through Theodore Thomas, Karl Zerrahn, Wilhelm Gericke, the Damroschs, Anton Seidel, Franz van der Stucken, Emil Paur and other brilliant leaders, the Americans also became acquainted with the wonderful compositions of Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms and Wagner. They were greeted with enthusiasm. Following the example of the German singing societies, countless Anglo-American societies exist in our country now, which rival each other in trying to reproduce the compositions of the greatest masters in their highest perfection.

In our appreciation of the German element we must not forget to mention its many benevolent institutions. There are numerous societies for the protection and welfare of immigrants. The most noteworthy of these is the Legal Aid Society of New York, which has, during the 40 years of its existence, helped many hundred thousand persons to their rights, **without considering their nationalities.** It collected for them, free of cost, several million dollars. On account of the great amount of good accomplished by this society it became the model for numerous similar institutions in America as well as abroad.

### The National German-American Alliance and Her Purpose.

The facts outlined above indicate only a very small fraction of the enormous mass of work that has been done by the Germans in the United States. Its magnitude is the more astonishing, as the German-Americans, up to the end of the nineteenth century, never formed a unit having in view mutual aims. They were, as has been said, an army of splendid soldiers, but without officers. The beginning of this century, however, brought decisive changes. The great advantage of centralization had become too apparent everywhere to escape the attention of our German-Americans, and so a small number of representative Germans of several States assembled in Philadelphia and organized the **National German-American Alliance**, on October 6, 1901, **not to form a State within the States, but to consolidate the enormous forces of the German-American population for the sole purpose of promoting everything that is good in German character and culture and that might be to the benefit and welfare of the whole American nation.** That this was a step in the right direction and that it found the hearty endorsement of the whole German-American population, may be seen from the rapid increase of the league. Within the fourteen years of its existence it has spread, under the able leadership of its president, **Dr. Charles J. Hexamer** of Philadelphia, over almost all States, and has now more than two million members.

The powerful impulse caused by the founding and growth of this league gave birth to many movements of similar character. In accordance with the suggestions of renowned American professors who had studied in Germany and there gained a knowledge of the magnitude and beauty of German culture, several American universities founded Germanistic Societies for the purpose of promoting German literature and

science. Harvard University established a Germanic museum, that shows in casts, paintings, photographs and facsimile reproductions almost everything that Germany has produced in great works of art, poetry and science during the past. But the greatest of all propositions was made by Professor Kuno Francke of Harvard. He suggested a regular exchange of professors between American and German universities in order to establish a stronger contact of thoughts and ideas between these two great countries. This innovation later on was extended to include professors of other nationalities also, and will do much to bring about a better understanding among the different nations of the world.

## Contrasting Sympathies.

Our brief sketch of the history of the Germans in America shows to evidence, that they have at all times striven, worked, battled and bled for the welfare of their adopted country. They belong to the most orderly, law-abiding, sober, thrifty and industrious citizens. None of the various elements of our complex population can boast of a better record. And American ideals will never have stronger and more enthusiastic supporters than they.

In view of these facts it is strange, that President Wilson, who claims to be an historian, has thought it necessary every little while, to lecture the German-Americans on patriotism. As the author of "A History of the American People" he ought to know better, and should direct his lectures much more to himself, to his boisterous predecessor, and to those hyphenates, who, not thinking of "America first," but of England, are plotting to drag our country into the European war in the interest of Great Britain.

The unquestionable loyalty of the German-Americans toward the land of their adoption does, however, not compel them to renounce the memories of their native land. As free speech is one of the incontestable rights of American citizens, so everyone has the right to lend his sympathy to any cause or any country that may appeal to his heart or conscience. Just as in the present war the sympathies of the Anglo-Americans incline to the foes of Germany, just as President

Wilson himself has, in speeches as well as by his acts, manifested his preference for "that single little island" across the ocean, so the sympathies of the German-Americans go most naturally to that people, whose blood flows in their own veins, whose culture is theirs, whose cause they believe just, and which carries on such a noble fight for existence and for the freedom of the seas.

No one has any right to blame the German-Americans for these sympathies. The last of all those dishonest Americans, who in their insatiable thirst for money not only furnish arms and supplies to the Allies, but provide them also with funds, with which to pay.

Many Americans of German stock as well as of other origin have, since the outbreak of the European war, become ashamed of the conduct of their adopted country, which they love and which they wish to see without blemish. They are humiliated, that this country is ruled by unscrupulous money lenders and greedy monopolists, making blood-stained dollars out of Europe's agony and death. They are grieved, that public opinion in the United States is dominated by an un-American press, which instead of giving their readers the truth, regales them with bogus stories, and applauds and glorifies nations, that arm the cannibal savages of the Senegal, the Congo, the Niger, the Himalaya Mountains and the Fiji Islands, to destroy the lands and lives of Europe's civilized peoples.

To the large numbers of American citizens, who are mortified by the disgrace of their country of adoption, the author of this pamphlet belongs also. There was a time, when he was proud to proclaim to his countrymen abroad the beauty of American scenery, the glory of American history, and the richness and vigour of American life. He was an admirer of Theodore Roosevelt and delivered in many German cities lectures in his praise. Now the former idol lies shattered on the ground; the lecture has been torn, and its author is almost persuaded to believe, that the great efforts of his life, namely the promotion of friendly relations between the United States and Germany, have been futile.

There are two ugly stains on the bright escutcheon of America. The one recalls the times, when our Congress and Government permitted the sister republics of the Boers to be strangled by the British and Zulu. The other, of later date, appeared, when America lent, as a silent ally of the Allies, her support for the destruction of that nation, which, since the bright sun of independence rose over America, had been the truest and most reliable friend of the United States.

## When the War is Over.

There are many who believe that the one-sided neutrality of our Government will seriously affect all further relations between the United States and Germany. The former friendship of the German nation toward America will change into cold reserve, if not contempt. While Germany was the second-best customer of the United States, having bought \$344,795,276 worth of goods in 1914, she will henceforth buy her supplies from those nations, which, during her struggle for existence, observed true neutrality and acted as real friends. The loss the commerce of the United States may suffer hereby, will in time surpass the gain, our Morgans, Schwabs and other gentlemen of similar character may net from their bloody traffic in arms and ammunition.

There will also come another serious loss. German immigration, having decreased steadily from 250,000 persons in 1882 to 35,000 in 1914, will go down tremendously or may stop altogether, as Germany, deprived by the war of so many useful men, guarantees for a long time far better prospects to intelligent and industrious people, than America can offer.

It is expected also, that large numbers of German-Americans, disgusted with the conduct of our Government and our press, will renounce their citizenship and return to Germany, where they will be welcomed with open arms.

While losing these elements, which, since the days of John Smith and George Washington, had been appreciated as belonging to the most valuable additions to our population, the influx of such immigrants will increase, which, on account of their inferior standard of life, lack of education, poverty and inclination to crimes have been regarded as "undesirable elements." These changes in the composition of our population will most probably mean for the United States an increase in corruption and crimes.

It is evident that the losses of our country will be heavy and manifold. But these losses are self-incurred, as our Government, instead of giving to the world a shining example of true neutrality, made itself a partisan to Great Britain, the destroyer of nations, injuring herewith not only the standing, welfare and future of many millions of her own citizens, but impairing also the peace and the continuation of the whole country.

## READER!

If you are interested in the PEACE AND WELFARE OF OUR COMMON COUNTRY, if you believe in its motto: "E PLURIBUS UNUM", then distribute this pamphlet among those of your fellow-citizens, whose minds have been tainted with race prejudice and hatred by our un-American Press.

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